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Henry Hastings Hall to George Bracher, 25 February 1859  
Sarah Bracher to W S Hall, n.d.

Feby 25 1859

Adelaide

My dear George,

Go a head seems the order of the day. I arrived here yesterday and sail for Freemantle today rather quick work. I was disappointed at finding when I came in that the *Tomatin* was taken off the "berth", but a small schooner, the *Waitemata* was laid on yesterday, as if for me to sail *this day* I have to be on board at 2 o'clk. I had just time to go to the city by *Rail*. I saw Dowdell as usual he was pretty hard run but he borrowed £3 from Inkpen who is on the same paper The *Advertiser*. Of course I thought that was better than nothing it comes in extremely handy and I will according to your request forward or bring it to you. We had a very rough passage from M and the steamer made me more sick than ever I was before. I paid £4 by her for 3 days, and they charge the outrageous price of £15 to the Swan, old Mrs Hokin, Dr Waylen a son of the late Mr W and two or three others I do not know are passengers the craft is only 60 tons. I see by todays paper another vessel is laid on, if I had known it I would have waited, but I thought there was nothing like taking the first chance send this to Shakespeare. I hope I shall be up in time to write by the "Mail". Some of you be sure to write. With sincere love to you all,

Yours ever affectly

H H Hall

My dear Shakespeare,

You will be glad to see by this that dr Henry got to Adelaide safe. I feel very anxious till I hear from him again on acct of passing the Lewin. We must trust in God & hope for the best. I had a fine girl born on the 12th (Saturday) Feby. Dr Boyd said nearly as big as 2 usually, & he insisted on my keeping my bed for 1 Month, but after an unpleasant attack of your old complaint &c &c I managed to come out after little more than 2 Wks in bed. I shall call her *Ada Louisa*. Geo is still *unemployed* and I feel very *unhappy*, if things do not go better the *worst* is not yet. John Turner is at the Indigo. Fred has been trying to sell all off without success he has not yet cut his Hay,

he expects 25 Tons. Thos Turner's second son Charles 7 yrs old was drowned in a water hole catching Craw Fish about 1 month since. Pettits claim [?Truengower] has turned out above 20,000 ozs of Gold. Poor Hy Oakley had some kind of accident last week at the White Hills which terminated in the amputation of his *Leg*, it is a sad thing for him, he is a nice steady young fellow, quite different from his Brother. I had Henry's likeness for myself & Fanny's to send to Papa they were both very good, Fanny looked really charming & with her Hat and Mantle looked nearly 15. Hy proposed introducing it as that of his intended & letting the secret out after the good Folks at Home have been quite deceived, what think you of this for a joke. Mr & Mrs Johnson start tomorrow for Pleasant Creek he is Postmaster there I am *very sorry* to lose their society. One by one all are leaving Bendigo that I care for. I shd like to leave it too if we cd better ourselves. Fanny sends her love she shall write next instead of me. Messrs Harper & Horton Bromell & Rankin are still with us. At present the Cambridge compy are quite *dissatisfied* and talk of registering they are 170 ft down and no reef we can ill afford what it costs us. I have no tidings of the case from the Swan. Henry got me a little information Capt Ashby left the *Thos Ann Cole* at the Heads & gave the box to a Captn Jones who promised to send it to me Jones gave it to a married couple passengers from the Swan who said they were coming direct to Sandhurst, Ashby had forgotten their names & promised to write to Jones in Sydney for the same I am very grieved & vexed to think they shd be so stupid as to trust it to any one after he promised my Father he would send it to me pr lst conveyance Excuse this, it is the first moment I have found time to address a line to anyone since my great affair Geo sends his love & Amelia & Mamma unite in the same to my dear Shakespeare.

for ever your devoted sister  
Sarah